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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.        | CONFIRMATION NO.       |
|--|-------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 10/006,167   | 12/04/2001  | George S. Shaginaw   | 31991.00005                | 2859                   |
| 23619 7590 07/27/2007<br>SQUIRE SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP<br>TWO RENAISSANCE SQUARE, 40 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE<br>SUITE 2700<br>PHOENIX, AZ 85004-4498 |             |                      | EXAMINER<br>DASS, HARISH T |                        |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT<br>3693           | PAPER NUMBER           |
|  |             |                      | MAIL DATE<br>07/27/2007    | DELIVERY MODE<br>PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|                              |                        |                     |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                              | 10/006,167             | SHAGINAW ET AL.     |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                              | Harish T. Dass         | 3693                |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 37-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-36 and 48-117 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 37-47 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **Acknowledgement**

Examiner acknowledges receipt of applicant's election of claims 37-47 (Group III) for examination transmitted on 5/14/2007.

### **Status of claims:**

Claims 1-36 and 48-117 are canceled.

Claims 37-47 are pending.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 37, 38-39 & 44-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kailamaki et al. (hereinafter Kailamaki – US 2002/0029197) in view of Brown (US RE37,857).

Re. Claim 37, Kailamaki discloses receiving a billing data structure including one or more billing records having billing information at the bill processing entity, the billing data structure including a rate element attribute that defines a chargeable unit [Abstract; Figures 2-3, 6, 17-18; paragraphs 02, 26-27, 51-56 (transfer to a standard format), 94 (different price), 112-115 (data fields, structure of the CDR file; CDR)].

Kailamaki *does not explicitly disclose* performing a verification process on the billing data structure;

rejecting all or part of the billing data structure if it fails the step of performing a verification process;

and processing the billing data structure at the bill processing entity if the data structure passes the verification steps.

However, Brown discloses these steps [Abstract; Figures 9-11, 14, 16 and associated descriptions; Col. 1 lines 10-37; col. 3 lines 6-37; col. 4 lines 18-25]. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosure of Kailamaki and include performing a verification process on the billing data structure; rejecting all or part of the billing data structure if it fails the step of performing a verification process; and processing the billing data structure at the bill processing entity if the data structure passes the verification steps, as disclosed by Brown, to check the integrity and sufficiency of data received at the data input.

Re. Claims 38-39 & 44-45, Brown further discloses wherein the step of performing a verification process further comprises verifying that the billing data structure is properly formatted, wherein the step of performing a verification process further comprises verifying an audit information field for proper values, rejecting the billing data structure comprises rejecting the complete data structure if identification information in an identification section are not verified, and rejecting all or part of the billing data structure comprises rejecting only billing records if the billing records fail a verification process. It

would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosure of Kailamaki and include above steps, as disclosed by Brown, to check the integrity and sufficiency of data received at the data input to generate error free billing to customer.

Claims 40-43 and 46-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kailamaki and Brown as applied to claim 37 above, and further in view of Friedman et al. (hereinafter Friedman - US 2002/0082991).

Re. Claims 40-43 and 46-47, Kailamaki or Brown *does not explicitly disclose* receiving the data over an Internet connection, a direct wired connection, a wireless connection, or a removable storage medium. However, an Internet connection, a direct wired connection, a wireless connection, or a removable storage medium for data transfer and download are well-known. Further Friedman discloses receiving the data over an Internet connection, a direct wired connection, a wireless connection, and a removable storage medium [Abstract; Figures 4C, 6, 9; paragraph 28]; wherein the step of processing the billing records comprises noting incoming billing records as an accounts payable and reconciling the accounts payables against accounts receivables, wherein the step of processing the billing records further comprises reconciling all accounts billable and accounts receivable at the end of a period [Abstract; Figures 4C, 6, 9; paragraph 23, 25, 33, 66-67 and claims]. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosures

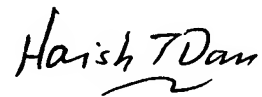
of Kailamaki and Brown to include the above steps as disclosed by Friedman, to provide telecommunication cost management method for analyzing billing, automatic reconciliation and auditing bills from telecommunication vendors.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harish T. Dass whose telephone number is 571-272-6793. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:50 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James A. Kramer can be reached on 571-272-6783. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Harish T Dass  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3693



7/18/07